Call Meeting to Order at 6:00 pm
Roll Call
Review Previous Minutes
  o January 17th, 2013

McKay: Move to approve.
Seconded by Thuringer.

Public Comment
Presentations
  o Office of Sustainability – Kristin Blackler
Blackler: I’m here to introduce myself. I’m located in the SUB. I’ve been on campus two weeks as of
today and am still getting to know everyone here on campus. There is truly incredible things going on all
over campus but no one is really talking about it so I think that will be a big part of my job here at MSU. I
hope to link people up and getting them working together. I was born in Missoula, moved to Portland,
but Montana has always been home. I think that’s part of where my passion for environmental
conservation comes from. I went to school in Southern California and that was eye opening. I’ve been at
UC San Diego in the last five years. I’m hoping to make some changes here at MSU just like I did there. I
hope to come back with more of an overview of goals and some of the restructuring but I’m still getting
the hang of things here at Montana State. Thank you so much for having me and I’m really excited to be
here, especially being a part of student-driven efforts. I have an open door policy, come visit me and talk
to me about your ideas!

Oak: Welcome to MSU, thank you for coming tonight. I am the Senator for the College of Arts and
Architecture. We’ve wanted to increase recycling on our side of campus and I’m looking forward to
working with you.

Blackler: We have also hired a part time recycling coordinator who has some incredible experience. He’s
very creative and committed and cannot be here tonight but I hope he’ll be able to come in and
introduce himself.

Howard: I move to change the order of the agenda and move the confirmation of State Leg Director to
the top.

Seconded by McKay.

Vote: 16/0/0.

  o Confirmation
    ▪ State Leg Director

Townshend: We will now have the confirmation of our new State Leg Director. I’d like to recognize
President Abbey.
Abbey: Mark has a lot of organizing experience on a lot of different political campaigns and he has a real passion and energy for politics. I’m really excited to appoint him as the State Leg Director. He’ll primarily serve as the political organizer for campus working closely with Dani to ensure we have students involved. Mostly that is working on the bill on the MUS but also ones that directly affect our students. He’ll be working along with Dani on educating students on all that is happening in the legislature as well.

Stiles: Move to confirm.

Seconded by French.

16/0/0.

Townshend: Congratulations for being confirmed to the State Legislature Director.

Unfinished Business

- 2013-R-1 Support for HB014
  - Sponsors: Michael Townshend, Erica McKay

Second reading of 2013-R-1.

French: Move to approve.

Seconded by McKay.

Goldstein: I think this is a great resolution and we should all support it.

Oak: I second Senator Goldstein’s statement.

Townshend: Passes with a vote of 16/0/0.

- 2013-R-2 Support for Gallatin County Support of Streamline
  - Sponsors: Kate Lamm, Steve Rowe


Move to approve by Thuringer.

Seconded by Mains.

Rowe: I think this is a great stride forward for the students of MSU by providing more ridership opportunities for members of the community.

French: I would also like to express my support. I think it’s great that we have so many seats for Senators on this board and I hope that we will be able to maintain that.

Lamm: To your point, French, this resolution will show that we support it even more. I was also asked to provide an explanation for why we are asking for $85,000 annually. It was advised that we ask for that much money because that’s essentially what Montana State gives every year plus an additional stipend so this is all accurate.

Howard: Out of curiosity, does Gallatin County reach Three Forks?
Lamm: I’m not sure about Three Forks, but the rest of Gallatin County wants access to this bus system which is very difficult to do without the support of the county. The people want this to expand and having the support of the county would make this possible.

French: Three Forks is in the county.

Townshend: Resolution 2 passes with a vote of 16/0/0.

- 2013-R-3 Support for Associate Dean of Students Position
  - Sponsors: Erica McKay, Michael Townshend

Second reading of 2013-R-3.

Move to approve by McKay.

Seconded by Howard.

Vote: 15/1/0.

Townshend: Resolution passes.

- 2013-R-4 Support for Creation of IT Committee
  - Sponsors: Steve Rowe, John Stiles

Second reading of 2013-R-4.

Move to approve by Rowe.

Seconded by Goldstein.

McKay: I would feel more comfortable with this is we had more structure in the composition of the board. I would like to see an amendment made by one of the sponsors to increase detail and clarity.

Rowe: The initial reason we worded this resolution in this way is so that we can leave the group open to anyone interested and concerned about IT problems on campus. This openness would allow more people to express their thoughts and ideas. We have members of the IT Department ready and willing to join including the Chief Information Officer. We left it open because any ASMSU Senator should be able to voice their opinions as much as possible as well as our constituents.

Howard: I like the openness as well but I would be comfortable with some key players in IT being listed so people know they are there to talk to.

Stiles: The intent was to keep this open enough for students to file complaints and let their concerns be heard. Our goal and objective is to get as many people involved as possible. I don’t know how Rowe feels. I think we’d support an amendment that would put Dr. Latimer on there but as far as a student members go I’d like to keep that open.

Lamm: I’d like to see an amendment made in line 8 that says, “met in a forum setting.” I think that would provide flexibility for this committee.

Rowe: I want this not to be a committee that has a forum and goes into a separate committee. I want everyone to be able to say things and voice their input all at the same time.

Stiles: We want it to be a forum and not necessarily elect people. We don’t know where it’s going to go.
Vanata: I agree with Vice President McKay, Senator Howard, and Senator Lamm. If this body doesn’t see a need for urgency, I’d like to entertain the notion of tabling for further discussion outside this body.

Seconded by Mains.

Vanata: I would like to entertain the notion; I am not making an official motion.

Rowe: I want to emphasize some urgency because of recent events (D2L crashing) so students can quickly communicate ideas to IT.

Thuringer: If there’s no structure for this, how are you going to ensure that people get heard?

Rowe: This is going to be structured in a formal meeting set time. There are numerous concerned constituents who have already approached me about this committee. The IT Department has committed to being a part of this committee as well as a few ASMSU senators.

Goldstein: I really think the intention behind this resolution is great. I do worry it’s not in its appropriate, finalized form. I have some concerns. It seems vague and I’m not sure how we’d prevent it from being controlled by one specific group. I think there is room for this resolution to be clarified.

Mains: I move to table this resolution until next week. I think if we had more clarity, this would have a better likelihood of being passed. I think this is a great idea and we need to talk about this more outside of this body.

Seconded by McKay.

11/5/0.

Resolution 2013-R-4 has been tabled until next week.

- 2013-REF-1 Support for Increase to Student Organization Fee
  - Sponsors: Erica McKay, Michael Townshend

Second reading of 2013-REF-1.

McKay: Move to approve.

Seconded by Goldstein.

Vanata: I would like to recognize President Abbey.

Abbey: I would like to suggest two amendments. My first thought is that line 2 should be amended. We are not expressing support for the increase; we’re expressing support to add this to the ballot.

Townshend: I’d like to clarify, by voting for this, ASMSU is supporting putting this on the ballot for the students to vote.

Abbey: I think we need to be critical about the intent. I would suggest that we remove line 25. I think it suggests we are supporting the fee increase and that needs to be decided at the ballot and not within the body. I’m afraid this expresses support to increase fees, not support for it to be on the ballot. We need to make the language clear.

Vanata: I agree with President Abbey. I believe we’re crossing a bit of a line with line 25. I believe we are asking students to choose. I’m in favor of it personally, but it should not reflect this body’s entire intent.
Stiles: I have a lot of issues with this in its present form. We need to express neutrality. I think it’s irresponsible to put this on the ballot in the first place. We need to do our job, fiscally and responsibly, to look for funding in other places. I don’t think increasing student fees will help this much. I haven’t seen students express interest in having their fees raised to help student organizations. I’m not okay with raising student fees. I’m voting no and I urge you guys to do the same.

McKay: By putting this on the ballot, we’re not saying we support this increase in student fees. We are saying we have seen an increased demand in allocations by student organizations and those are the students talking to us saying they need more money for clubs, organizations, and engagements. I move to add: “to be put on the Spring 2013 ballot” at the end of line 2 and to strike line 25.

Seconded by Thuringer.

Townshend: A referendum is different from a resolution. By voting yes, we are saying we support a student vote on the wording in here. The students are going to see this exact wording and they’re going to be voting on whether or not to put it on the ballot.

A referendum is us saying we want students to vote on a matter. They will see this on the ballot if Senate thinks it should go on the ballot. By us supporting it, it’s not saying we support it; it’s saying we support a student vote in the matter. It’s for ASMSU and has no mention of Senate so it’s for our constituents.

McKay: I’d like to amend my amendment to only strike line 25.

Seconded by Thuringer.

Vanata: I would like to ask McKay to elaborate why she decided to strike that portion.

McKay: The exact wording we present in this referendum is exactly what students will be reading when they go to click on the ballot.

Vote: 15/1/0.

Townshend: Amendment to amendment passes.

Vote on striking line 25: 16/0/0.

Townshend: Amendment passes.

Thuringer: Contrary to what Senator Stiles said, I think we should support this. As a member of Funding Board, I know what students are looking for and they want these fees so they can get more involved in clubs and organizations on campus.

Stiles: I think if the students ultimately want this raised, I don’t have a problem with it. I think we’re putting this out on a ballot that has statistically low turnout. I also see a lot of comments that people want these fees increased to pay for these things. I want to examine the budget and how we appropriate funds before we put this up for a vote for the student body.

Goldstein: As a member of Funding Board, I do believe this is a very important issue. We’re letting the students decide with this referendum. Regardless of what any of us believe in this body, the students have every right to make this decision themselves. We’re going to run out of money in Funding Board
and it’s important to give this to students and this is an appropriate manner to give students to make a decision.

French: With a referendum of this type, there has not been a time that one has failed. In a sense we are supporting it even though that’s not technically what is happening. If we really do want this to come before students, it would be better to have signatures take place. From what I understand, 2,000 are necessary. If it’s 18%, that’s more signatures than average voter turnout. Maybe we should go the signature route because that would prove that the students really want it.

Townsend: It only takes 1% of ASMSU members to put something on the ballot, roughly 140 people.

Lamm: The concerns you’re having are that people don’t know what is going on in Senate. We’re totally in this but other students aren’t. I think it’s important to educate students and we’ll have more turnout at the polls.

Howard: It seems that what we vote on tonight determines whether or not it will pass or fail. If it doesn’t leave us, we all know we have an apathetic enough campus that it may not happen. If we pass it tonight, it will more than likely pass so we must take this seriously.

Mains: We are the voice of our students. Why not give this decision to our constituents so they can make the choice themselves?

McKay: I would like to clarify Senator Stiles’ comment. This fee does not affect ASMSU operating funds. Last year we voted to add an extra $20,000 to this pool from ASMSU funds. By increasing this fee, we could free up some ASMSU funds.

Reid: I wanted to echo Mains. Documents like this are the reason we are here. We’re giving the students the ability to vote on this and tell us what they want.

Stevens: I have a few issues with this referendum. Kate, that’s a great idea. If we’re going to go through with this I’d like to see an amendment brought up so students can actually see the spending of the RSO. Being a former member of Funding Board, we have to look at this problem first internally and then go to external sources of funding. I believe we are liberal with giving these groups money. I feel it would be irresponsible to take the students time in voting for this when the main issue we hear from the constituents is that increasing our tuition is a bad thing and that they want more fiscal responsibility. To make ASMSU’s image brighter, we need to show them that we’re using their funds responsibly rather than asking them for more money. I strongly encourage a negative vote.

Stiles: Worst case scenario. First, we’ll increase voter turnout which is one of the worst things that can happen which we’re looking to do anyway. If the students are passionate enough about raising funds, they’ll get signatures and they’ll get people to vote for this on the ballot. We want people to vote for this on the ballot. We want their input about how much it needs to be and whether or not they want it on the ballot. We’re certainly going to get what the students want and we’ll get the reform needed. I’m not so sold that we’re handling this properly and getting that out in the most fiscally responsible way. I do urge this body to move against this. Move for previous question.

Seconded by Stevens.

Vote: 6/9/1.

Previous question fails.
Oak: There is a need for an increased allocation of student funds. There is also a fear of an increase of any kind. We have a responsibility to be fiscally responsible and solvent with the student funds we are given. How many students have a direct knowledge of the fact that we need to see an increase in fees? We have an intrinsic knowledge of this. The average student, how do they know?

McKay: US! In this room. We get it to them. That’s our job.

Oak: Continuing that train of logic, we should support this referendum. Although we are backhandedly placing our support by putting this on the ballot, we as representatives are simply here to educate. We need to get out there and talk to students. We should support this bill because it places that issue in their hands.

Rowe: If the students want this, there only needs to be one percent of the students that agree with this to get this on the ballot. This will affect 100% of students on campus. If they can’t get 1% of the student population to sign a petition to put this on the ballot, why should we put it on the ballot?

Lamm: How much money was leftover from our student fee? Never mind. Withdrawn.

Howard: One of our campus wide goals is involvement. What better way to help students get involved than by joining RSOs? If more people show up, they will have even less funding, we’ll essentially be throwing them to the wolves. I don’t understand why we’re not voting for this. It’s not a huge increase and it’s going to help a lot of people, especially as the university grows and we promote student involvement.

Stiles: It’s probably smart to table this legislation at this point. I want to hear from Phyllis Bock, President Abbey and Vice President Murdock, make sure there is truly a financial need and we’re financially solvent. Move to table because I don’t have enough info at this time.

Vote: 4/12/0.

Townshend: Motion fails; we’re back into discussion.

Oak: As a point of clarification, what was the previous question before Stiles moved to table?

Townsend: Referendum as amended.

Stiles: I think it’s irresponsible of this body to approve this without requesting a budget. I think we’re moving too quickly with this.

Thuringer: Last year, we completely ran out of funds.

McKay: Three months early.

Thuringer: We’re supposed to double our engagement by 2019 within RSOs. How do you plan to facilitate that if we don’t give them the resources to do so? We’re going to run out of money again. Students are getting more involved and that is something we should wholeheartedly support.

Goldstein: I’d like to recognize Vice President Murdock.

Murdock: We really need to support our students in being engaged. You’ve all send the benefits of being engaged and you’ve been the club leader who’s had to take out money to put on an event and wait to get reimbursed and it’s a huge hassle. We shouldn’t be making it difficult for our students to be
engaged. We’re just giving the students the chance to choose for themselves. We see low voter turnout to begin with. We’re doing everyone a disservice if we make it even more difficult to access and have a say in these issues. Also, consider the fact that we started talking about this fee increase in July. That’s when we started talking about how the small and large pools are worked out. The thought and research for this referendum has been done. I encourage you to continue to ask those questions of those people but it has been done thoughtfully. Tuition and fees are raising and students don’t like that but we want to make sure students get the bang for the buck because this money is going directly back to the students.

Goldstein: Echo that. I’ve been President of a club dealing with acquiring funds. It’s a problematic venture. I think we need to streamline this process as much as possible and make sure that funds are available for student organizations. We have a lot of RSOs and we need to be supporting our students.

Reid: I, too, agree with Lindsey. I think the main reason against this is we want to see this come from the students. Senate is here for the students. Call to previous question.

Mains: Seconded.

Vote: 12/4/0.

Seconded by Rowe.

Vote: 10/4/0. Two abstentions.

Townshend: This will move to the ballot. We will now recess for five minutes before moving to Senate appointments. Thank you President Abbey for water and coffee.

- New Business
  - Senate Appointments
    - 2 EHHD
    - 1 At-Large

Townshend: We will now come up with questions for the Senate candidates.

Rowe: What qualities do you feel a successful Senator should have?

French: And how would you embody these?

McKay: What ASMSU program are you most interested in?

Mains: Can we add what do you know about ASMSU?

McKay: What is your knowledge of ASMSU and what program are you most excited to work with?

Oak: Why ASMSU? Why are you running?

Vanata: I like that but I think they can address that in their opening or closing statement.

McKay: I think this is a good point. What do you hope to accomplish in this position?

Vanata: Yes. What changes or improvements do you think need to be addressed on campus and how do you think you can accomplish that in this body?
French: Is it possible for them to cover that in the closing if they think we missed anything? They often repeat themselves in the introduction and closing. I think that would be most efficient.

Townshend: They must have an opportunity to give an opening statement.

Reid: They’ve already prepared knowing those times are what we are going to give them.

Vanata: Can we be more specific about what we want to hear in the opening statement?

Howard: How about: How do you embody the qualities of a good Senator? That would avoid rehash. I think we should make it concise.

Lamm: I would like to pass three questions because I think they contain everything we need to know.

Townshend: Are we good with the questions and the order of them? Do we want to change it to “within the MSU community?” Great. I know the discussion on the last referendum was a bit heated but let’s maintain our dignity here and not be angry at each other and have those discussions outside of Senate so I don’t have to deal with it. I’m kidding; I’d deal with it.

Questions for Senate Applicants:

Rowe: What qualities do you feel a successful Senator should have and how do you embody those qualities?

McKay: What is your knowledge of ASMSU and what ASMSU program are you most excited to work with?

Vanata: What changes or improvements do you think need to be addressed in the MSU community and how do you think you can accomplish that in this body?

First Applicant: Stone

Stone: I’d like to introduce myself. I’m Nathan Stone. I am a transfer student this semester at Montana State. I think this would open opportunities for me with my education in Health and Human Performance and Biology. I sat on the HHP Board at Dylan for a year as well as Community Health Coalition three years ago. I was also appointed as a coordinator through the hospital in Browning. I was hired in 2007 and within a month or two I was coordinator and supervised 8 employees.

Rowe’s question.

I have open ears to listen. I heard you guys tonight discussing to come to an agreement. It’s important to be here, representing the student body in the choices you make.

McKay’s question.

I’m new. I’m excited to be here. I’ve seen all of the general clubs available and I’d like to be in different ones but my background is more related to health so something where I can use my knowledge with that.

Vanata’s question.
One of the discussions you were talking about tonight is really important. I really think raising the student fee should be up to the student body. There should probably be a change that needs to be done to the budget. More than anything, I’d like to be involved. I want to say that my background has a wide range of health fields and I would really like to be a part of this body and represent from my perspective coming from a small school. I think it would be a learning experience and would help me grow down the road.

Second Applicant: Sanders

Sanders: Hi I’m Caitlyn Sanders. I’m a junior in Early Childhood Education. I’m a train wreck at public speaking. Someone said you guys like corny jokes. “What’s the difference between roast beef and pea soup? Anyone can roast beef!” Not only can I roast beef, I’d be a good addition to ASMSU. I have a lot of leadership and volunteer experience. I grew up in a military family. I adapt easily, I’m comfortable with all groups of people, and I’m working on public speaking. I have a deep appreciation for what goes on behind the scenes. You guys do a lot of great things and I’ve already wanted to jump up and say something. I don’t have a lot of experience in student governments. I really do have a passion for serving others, especially my peers. Love my department. I want to give back.

Rowe’s question.

I would assume someone who is a good leader and who cares. Someone who can connect with people. I like being a voice for others and being able to do that for them if they don’t feel they can use their own voice.

McKay’s question.

I don’t have a lot of knowledge about the Senate. I’m coming into this wanting to be involved in the MSU community. I’m excited to have a chance to have a voice.

Vanata’s question.

One I’m sure none of you have ever heard is parking. I bike to school a lot. Someone got after me for locking my bike to a telephone pole but once I couldn’t get to work because someone locked their bike to mine. It’s an easy fix, something everyone could benefit from. I can find the resources to have people help me make this happen.

Thank you for this opportunity and for laughing at my joke. I hope my lack of government background doesn’t keep you from seeing that I would be a positive addition to what you guys are doing.

Third Applicant: Cronsell, J.

My name is Janet Cronsell. I’m a sophomore from Bozeman. I’m studying political science with a German minor and Family and Consumer Sciences minor and I’m in the Honors Program. I canvassed for 2 programs for the election and had a really amazing experience. One individual was a young student who lived alone and she was not registered to vote and I told her that this election as a female and student in particular it mattered a lot to her. I was able to encourage her toward what issues would best support
her. I could do this on a larger scale if I was on Senate. I’m a people person, and would help create interest in your programs. I would also make sure to make wise decisions in regards to funding.

Rowe’s question.

I feel that a Senator should not be biased, should be involved in a lot of activities and have multiple interests. A Senator should be up to date with current events and look at every aspect of an issue. I noticed there were quite a few times where people voted yes and no and I think that is healthy in any situation. A Senator should also be willing to hear from the public and get out there. That’s a large part of what ASMSU does.

McKay’s question.

I looked over the whole website. I was looking at a video asking people what ASMSU was. I know it’s the connection between so many parts of MSU. Parents who have kids will go to the daycare; your programs allow students to be involved. I know you also have the Exponent. I’m not sure what program I would like to work with most. I would like to work on the state legislative program. I think the tuition freeze and the pay increases for the employees at MSU are very important issues. I’m also very interested in the Streamline because my dad didn’t have a car growing up.

Vanata’s question.

I think the student activity fee distribution needs to be looked at, taking into consideration issues such as increasing growth. I feel that will be great but we need to add a lot more to MSU program wise, parking wise to make sure that works and we need to be able to get funding from state legislature as well.

I think I’m a great choice for Senate because of my experiences and my knowledge of ASMSU and how MSU work in legislature. I represent some unspoken voices at MSU because I’m involved in 4 different programs at MSU. I hope you make your choices wisely.

Fourth applicant: Cronsell, N.

Hi. I’m Natasha. I don’t know a lot about politics. I’m an early education and community health major with a minor in child services. I’m applying because I got an email from a professor and I didn’t want to lose our representation because we have some incredible people in our program and the one thing we all have in common in HHD is that we all care about people. And I want to care for people. I’m interested in earlier discussion. I thought I might be bored by this meeting but I wasn’t.

Rowe’s question.

A senator should legitimately care about who they are representing and be willing to put work into researching issues at hand.

McKay’s question.

Streamline would be awesome. I know I could name any of the programs. The Procrastinator would be cool, I work with CDC, Day Care, Spirit, Entertainment, of course. Student involvement is really important and I wouldn’t be here right now if I had not spent time in clubs or on campus doing non-school things.
Vanata’s question.

I think sustainability is something we should try to tackle more on all fronts. I’m not a huge activist but I think it would be great if we had a discount on paid parking if you came with more than one person in your vehicle. I think if we’re going to put on this front we should go at it everywhere. There’s not even recycling bins next to lots of the garbage bins and that’s weird.

I think it would be great if we had more things to do on campus for students besides just going to the bars. There are things that happen on campus, and if we did more it would help take care of some DUIs here and there.

Fifth Applicant: Macy

Hi. I’m Christina Macy. I’m a secondary education major with emphasis on general science. I would really like to work on my leadership and responsibility and involvement at MSU. As a College of Education student, never had an actual experience with one of my senators. Would like to change that, reach out to my fellow students in my college and bridge that gap and represent the student body as a whole. Very interested in a lot of ASMSU programs, including Outdoor Rec and Sustainability. I have a lot of experience with leadership positions, responsibility, and communication. These would all help me as a senator.

Rowe’s question.

I believe a senator should have communication skills. I worked at Jamba Juice. We always said there is no such thing as over-communication. If anything changed, we would communicate that. We never really had problems; everyone was on the same page. I had the experience of seeing the value in making sure everyone knows what’s going on.

McKay’s question.

I know you have the Exponent, Sustainability, and Outdoor Rec. My two would be Sustainability because that is where my passion lies and Outdoor Rec because it provides a lot of opportunities for students to do things they wouldn’t normally do for very affordable prices.

Vanata’s question.

I would really like to see more of a connect between Senate and some departments and students in those bodies. If I were a Senator, I would be very vocal, get out there, and share my opinion and knowledge.

Thank you all for taking the time to hear me speak. I would appreciate the opportunity to work with all of you. I would love to work with people who are passionate about their departments and MSU and I have the leadership experience that would make me a valuable Senator.

Sixth Applicant: Marshall

Marshall: I’m Jen Marshall and I’m from Dover, Delaware. I’m a technology education and photography major and I’m a freshman. I’m bubbly, outgoing, can talk quickly, say a lot of relevant things, have a
habit of talking with my hands. I’ve been a part of a legislative body in the past and I know you can really do a great amount of good for this campus.

Rowe’s question.

Good communication skills, being able to talk and listen and process what others are saying and take that into account.

McKay’s question.

I know about your programs from the website, word of mouth, and Senators I have met. I think the Streamline is amazing as is how involved ASMSU is in that production. It’s a fantastic thing that has been set up. Not two separate entities but rather they are one which is awesome.

Vanata’s question.

I think sustainability is a big thing on this campus. I’d like to look at some little things. The amount of recyclable materials thrown in the trashcan astounded me and I think it’s important that we pay more attention to the smaller things.

I would like to thank you all for your time and consideration.

Discussion on candidates:

McKay: Sanders. She was here last week. She sat through the entire meeting. She asked a lot of questions after. That is the kind of interest we should be rewarding.

Howard: Layman’s background is a good thing. It’s good to have a normal student’s outside perspective. We can count on her not coming in with a hidden agenda. She seemed really humble; we could use more of that in this body.

Goldstein: I agree. Sanders were fantastic. She’d be a valuable addition to the group. Same with Jen Marshall. She’s a freshman so she has a long time to grow with the position, and is really strong with parliamentary procedure with has a lot of merit.

Vanata: I want to ask this body to remember the learning curve that comes with being a Senator. That being said, this position is going to be three months and we will be going in depth with our budgets. We should look at candidates who have done their homework, the way we do things, our programs, and that are rip-roaring and ready to go. Also, to echo Goldstein. I would never guess Marshall was a freshman. That high energy comes with a high drive to learn. Having that Streamline knowledge was great. Being able to be active in conversation and understand the process and how that works will be very beneficial for this body.

Rowe: My only piece of advice to keep in mind the ideas they displayed.

Smith: They only have a limited amount of time. Janet seems to be a very good candidate. Very successful, and would represent students well.

Mains: I really like Macy. She wants to bridge the gap between the students and the college. That’s our job. That’s awesome that she brought that up. She’ll learn a lot and be great for this body.
Thuringer: Janice, Macy, and Marshall are the three that seemed to really do their research on this. It shows they are willing to invest in something. They would all be perfectly suited for two positions open.

Stiles: I’d like to recognize Abbey and Murdock.

Murdock: Marshall is proficient in Robert’s Rules, really appreciate the few people who came in and knew what they were talking about. Macy discussed recycling. Janet has done her research. I appreciate you said Sanders came in, but she came in and still didn’t know much. Little bit of a red flag. Stone represents a portion of the student population we don’t have represented on Senate. Native Americans make up 4% of campus, 0% of this body. Again, something to keep in mind.

Rowe: I’m 50% Native American.

Murdock: Oh, I didn’t know that. I had no idea.

Abbey: I really loved Katie Sanders and the effort she put in, I do agree with Lindsey that there was more knowledge base with Macy and Marshall. They are not overwhelming personalities which will be much needed in the late hours of Thursdays. Marshall came off as humble and fun, that she would take her job seriously but not take herself seriously. Felt the same way about Sanders. Didn’t get a distinct feel either way with Macy. I’d say Sanders, Macy, or Marshall.

Lamm: Echo Senator Thuringer. I do appreciate how professional and thoughtful and efficient Macy and Marshall were. Janet does have a knowledge base of the bigger picture and the legislative level and I think it’s okay that we’re focused on the students here in this body and not as much on the Montana legislature.

McKay: Macy emailed me before the seat opened up. She’s another one of those people extremely interested in the process here and has been looking into it for a long time. As someone who sat through this process outside for two hours, let’s keep this moving.

Howard: Janet said she’s involved with 4 student programs. We all know this is a huge time commitment, more than any of us realized before getting into it. I’m concerned she will be putting too much of a load on with this. I go to work, class, and here. That’s it. Sanders needs to get just as much credit for coming to a meeting and sitting through that. If we look at our meetings, we don’t learn a whole lot about ASMSU from any one meeting so we can’t condemn her based on that.

Reid: Macy. Very professional and very prepared. Appreciated that she thanked us for her time.

Townshend: Dump Truck vote. Vote for One Seat. We will do each seat separately. Pick your favorite candidate. We will vote for one, vote for another from the five remaining.

Vote:

Stone: 1

Sanders: 2

Macy: 9

Marshall: 4
Townshend: First seat for Christina Macy. We’ll now vote on the second seat. Further discussion.

Vanata: I urge this body to consider Jen Marshall. I have faith she can come in here, ask the right questions, and jump right in.

Vote for second seat:

Stone: 1
Sanders: 4
Marshall: 9

Two abstentions.

Townshend: The second seat will go to Jen Marshall.

Thuringer: What is your experience with budgeting? Is that a fair and valid question?

French: Why don’t we just use the same questions as the last one?

McKay: I fully support that considering that’s what we’re going to be doing for the next three months.

French: Are we asking that because we didn’t ask the first group?

Stevens: We’re all pretty educated. Not everyone needs to have a budgeting background to be a successful senator. I was lost when I came in here and I’m doing just fine.

McKay: When I came in last spring, I was lost because I had no idea what budgeting entailed.

Stevens: We should give everyone an equal opportunity to present their case.

Vanata: Would be a better thing to ask “what’s your experience with budgeting and if you have no previous experience, how would you go about learning the process?”

Mains: There are candidates who know we are going through budgeting. That will give a leg up to certain candidates versus others.

Thuringer: It was super confusing to come in here with little knowledge of budgeting and I wish I would have had more background. I think it would have been very helpful if I did know what was going on at the time.

McKay: I support your addition of the budgeting question.

Stevens: Although this is a big part of what we’re doing, I fear this body would discount candidates because they have no budgeting experience. I don’t think that it should be one of the top priorities.

McKay: I would disagree. We’re handing over a million dollars in the next few months. While they can overcome it, I think it is valuable for us to know what they think and what they’re coming in with because it is such an important part of job.

Vanata: I change my stance. I agree with Erica. I’m being a hypocrite. A lot of energy will be focused toward that purpose and it’s important to know if people have background.

Lamm: Does everyone agree that values were clear with opening statements?
Vanata: I think we should have improvements on their mind because it’s a lot of what we do so I’d like to keep mine. Sorry I might be biased. So would you be okay with striking the values question and replacing it with the budgeting one?

Rowe: It was qualities.

Vanata: Sorry. Qualities.

Thuringer: We’re adding 10 minutes by asking an additional question. Does anyone have a problem with ten minutes?

Townshend: We’ll add it as a fourth question.

Fourth question for candidates:

Thuringer: What’s your experience with budgeting. If you have no previous experience, how you would you go about learning the process?

First Candidate: Smith

Hi. I’m Tia Smith and I’m studying CBN. I have a passion for science, art, and excellence. I am assertive and determined as a leader. I’m very passionate and if there’s conflict or an opposing side, I work to see that passion through and produce results. I would like to set a standard of excellence. I want to work on the empowerment of the student body, collaboration with faculty, and stimulation of emerging artists by promoting their work in the Exit Gallery. I also want to cement partnerships with other schools.

Rowe’s question.

A senator should be able to understand the student body they are working with, as well as the goals and morals of this school as an institution. Be a leader, be a model for what you want to see. Be passionate for what you are doing and give others opportunities to find their own passions. Help people in discovering who they are, what they want to be.

McKay’s question.

I did the small group with Condoleezza Rice. I’m excited about academic opportunities, and research is what I’m really interested in.

Vanata’s question.

I think a lot of students struggle with finding their passions. Earlier you discussed the student fee increases. I believe it is very important that people are able to do things that will enable them to learn about what they love to do.

Thuringer’s question.

I have a little experience with budgeting. I started an organization in my hometown and we worked with the city. We partnered well with the city. That’s the extent of my knowledge.
My artist’s perspective of the world has allowed me to see creative solutions to everyday problems. Thank you.

Second Candidate: Haskell

Hi. My name is Dillon Haskell. I know a few of you from being in Senate in past. Took a semester to myself, got good at Halo, focused on Sigma Chi. When I got the email about open seats I was excited because I missed it and I really enjoy being a part of the organization.

Rowe’s question.

Leadership. Communication skills. I definitely have leadership, I was in Senate before, and I was in Erica’s position before, lots of leadership experiences. University Studies peer advisor, execute officer in fraternity, orientation leader. I love that ASMSU controls what happens on campus and makes changes. Communication goes along the same lines. Anytime you communicate together, having those abilities to voice opinions and ideas helps as a Senator.

McKay’s question.

I guess I know about all of the programs from prior experience. I really liked working with KGLT. Really loved the Outdoor Rec Center, too. That’s something we can always improve on.

Vanata’s question.

For me, my number one priority that I thought students cared about was parking. I know you’ve moved forward some. I think that’s something students really care about. Making what ASMSU does relevant to students has always been a struggle here, keep going with that. That’s something that is difficult with the MSU community. As well as communication with different areas of campus. MSU is one big organization and there are tiny offices everywhere that don’t talk to each other often. Even happen within this organization.

Thuringer’s question.

I have experience with budgeting. Finance Board chair last year. I’ve overseen that. Learned a lot about that. I’m a Finance major now. Don’t get to take specific classes until junior year and now I’m in them. Definitely gave me a lot of insight into this organization. We didn’t used to have communication between Finance Board and this body. I worked to really increased communication between the two before. That was my best experience with it so far and it was lots of fun.

I would really love to be a part of this again because I miss this organization and what it stands for and this movement that is always happening on campus. We always had different groups coming up with amazing ideas and seeing these things come to life. Makes you feel alive. You get to be on the front of that and other students don’t even see what we do. Don’t often get a lot of credit. Bring leadership and prior experience. Know how this works. Along with that, I’d like to get involved with different movements going on within Senate and keep things moving forward. I’d love to have this opportunity again.

Third Candidate: Curley
Good evening. I’m running for position at large. I want to try to get more of the minority represented here on this board. There are a lot of minorities out there. I’m Native American and we need a voice here for other minorities, especially with this being the biggest student organization on campus.

Rowe’s question

Leadership. I’m currently the VP of American Indian Council for this coming year. Addressing a lot there, Pow Wow, lots starts at the top. I was voted unanimously to the position and I ran unopposed.

McKay’s question.

All of them. One, don’t limit yourself just to one thing. It’s important to be open-minded and we need to encourage others to be the same.

Vanata’s question.

A lot of it is actually going out there and meeting with the people. A lot of people are unaware of what organizations do and the key is outreach. If you make them more aware of what you do, that brings them in, gets them more involved, and gets them on board with whatever you are trying to do. You’ve gotta get out there and make people aware.

Thuringer’s question.

I have lots of budgeting experience. It’s work experience mostly. I worked for MetLife for 5 years and I was in and out of accounting department. With the American Indian Council here, I’m on the budget committee. I’m the CEO for our tribe, and involved in the budgeting for our tribe. I know my goals; I know how to break things down. I like the numbers and breaking them down.

My goal is to open this up to more minorities. There is not a whole lot of minority representation here but we need more because there are a lot of minority students on campus. That encourages more minority students to run for these positions. If they can do it, so can I. By stepping up, people are inspired. It’s the ones who step up because you never know where it will take you.

Fourth Candidate: Oelkers

Thank you to everyone for letting me do this tonight. This is a great opportunity. My name is Nick Oelkers and I think ASMSU would be a great fit for me. I will bring relevant information to the meetings to help better the student population. I’m an MET major with minor in business admin. I’m from Culbertson, Montana, a town of 900 people. I was 3rd in my class, class president all 4 years, on student council, BPA president senior year. I did sports and my main passion was 4H. I’ve been a member since I can remember. I was also Roosevelt County Junior and Senior Ambassador. I took UC291 my freshman year and that got me involved in Bobcat Motor Sports. I’ve volunteered my time, learned how to both lead and follow. I’m outgoing, willing to learn, persevering, and love the outdoors.

Rowe’s question.

A senator should be a leader but also a follower. It’s important to listen and get things done. That will lead to a better future for MSU.

McKay’s question.
You’re involved in so much. The gym, Streamline, daycare, etc. There’s a plethora of things on website I found interesting.

Vanata’s question.

The main thing is parking. Everyone knows that. You were talking about voting today. I want to work on a greater voter turnout. I feel that should be encouraged more for students to come out and vote and voice their opinions.

Thuringer’s question,

I was in BPA in high school and took four years of business classes. I’m a Marketing minor. I’m willing to take more business classes to further my education in this area.

Thank everyone for letting me do this tonight. I hope I can be a part of this body. Thank you.

Fifth Candidate: Dove

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to be here. My name is Billy Dove. Born and raised in Bozeman. Involved with student council for several years, senior class president of a class of around 500. After graduating I joined the National Guard and did military intelligence. I came back this year. I’m a freshman but I have 30 transfer credits. I represent a lot of people. I work at the airport. You’d be surprised at how many students look at Bozeman and I really consider myself an ambassador to the town. See a lot of things. Good things SMSU has done. Be an honor for me to do that and serve the student body. I’d do a good job of representing lots of students which is what you need. I’m a veteran, a transfer student, and a Bozeman native.

Rowe’s question.

Man of the people, especially as an at-large position. Grew up in Bozeman, went to HS with a lot of students here. I know a lot of them personally. They know they can come to me and talk to me. Public speaking is a huge thing for me. Briefing was a huge portion of the training down there. Deliver point, not be intimidated. I’m also a CAP mentor and believe it is important to serve my community. Like to keep doing that with you in this organization.

McKay’s question.

You are doing lots of good work, especially with clubs. The busses are something I’m excited about. Like to see that get expanded. Didn’t have until you stood up and spearheaded that. I like how much involvement there is and how students can push for clubs and programs that happen here at MSU. I hope you keep doing those things and I know I could help out.

Vanata’s question.

Parking, expenses, things like that. I don’t know how much we could cut costs but I think it’s something we need to focus a lot of attention on.

Thuringer’s question.
When I was at Bozeman High School, I started a political club and the school couldn’t give us any money so we were completely self-sustaining. It was incredibly popular at the high school. When I was senior class president, I was the committee that gave out money to student clubs. I know I have a lot to learn and I’d be really excited to learn from you all.

I’m sure you’ve heard some other great candidates. What sets me aside is my dedication to do the best I absolutely can. That’s what this position is all about. I’ve shown through other things like the National Guard and CAP mentoring that I’m willing to go the extra mile and do what the students need to be an effective senator with ASMSU.

Sixth Candidate: Kostelnik

As you may or may not know, I am a business and economics major. I’m a junior and I’m currently involved with Funding and Finance Board. I’ve helped out on a few other minor things. I come here all the time for meetings so I have an idea of what is going on.

Rowe’s question.

Leadership and engagement. I embody those very well. I’ve been engaged for several years on campus. I’ve been engaged in student clubs or ASMSU for two and a half years. Currently taking leadership classes learning to better my leadership skills.

McKay’s question.

I know a lot because I’m here and observing. I guess I’d like to mostly have more of an overall say in what is going on. I know what Finance and Funding Boards entail. These are my biggest passion but I’d like to have more of an influence and help the student body.

Vanata’s question.

The biggest flaw I’ve seen in my 2.5 years of involvement is transparency and getting people involved. I have a few creative ideas. I’m encouraging myself and everyone to get up and talk to people so they know what’s going on and why they should be involved.

Thuringer’s question.

I do have some experience with budgeting because of Finance and Funding Boards. I’m very excited about learning more about that which is why I got involved in the first place.

I do not envy you guys at all. You have a very tough decision tonight. I know you’ll make a great decision. I hope you pick who is best and most deserving of the job.

Seventh Candidate: Monteith

I’ve been at MSU for 4 years. I’m studying organismal biology. I want to be a part of ASMSU because I think leadership is a really good quality and this is a good opportunity to emphasize those qualities. To be a good and effective leader is to set strategy, motivate, create a mission, and build a culture. I can help in implementing those qualities of a leadership organization. I’ve thought about applying for
ASMSU before but never was confident enough to do it. I’ve worked with other organizations (orientation leader, peer advisor, RHA) was able to build confidence better my public speaking and accurately communicate between individuals and in front of groups.

Rowe’s question.

Wanting to make a positive change in a group setting. A leader is someone who wants to make a positive change through the smallest of things. I want to implement things and it would be a great opportunity to be a part of something on a bigger scale to create a positive change.

McKay’s question.

I don’t have a vast knowledge of ASMSU but I know they help fund programs on campus (LI, Sustainability), which are two I’m excited to be a part of. They are great resources for students to be actively involved and make a difference.

Vanata’s question.

You were talking about increasing fees for students with student organizations. Just creating that little bit of change is going to have a vast effect on the entire university. We have to look at how we are going to fund students clubs because there is a lot you do as a club. I’m in the Triathlon Club and a little implementation increase could have a really positive effect on this community.

Thuringer’s question.

I have personal experience with it. On a larger scale, I think it’s important to have multiple minds working together to create a budget.

Thanks for listening. A great opportunity to enhance my leadership skills and practice and implement the ones I’m learning daily. Great opportunity to be a part of a bigger change and being part of a more democratic environment and being an advocate for students is something I’ve always wanted to do. This is a great opportunity to be part of something bigger than myself.

Eighth Candidate: Stoick

I’m going to tell you about why I want to join ASMSU and why I’d be a good addition. I really value community. I’ve had a great three semesters here at MSU and I want to give back in a meaningful way and be a larger voice in what goes on here. It’s important to step it up. I have experience with student government in the past and I want to continue my role in that. I’m very critical of ideas in an objective way. I’m also good at recognizing how the details lead to the big picture, which is a really important step. Lastly, I’d be great at representing at large student body because it’s so diverse and I’m a diverse person myself.

Rowe’s question.

I think it’s important to be critical when looking at issues and decisions that are going to impact a large group of people and I’m good at balancing short and long term as well as being organized and dependable. Being articulate is also critical.

McKay’s question.
I am dedicated to benefitting the student’s lives, involvement, and interactions in the campus atmosphere. Most interested in sustainability because it’s very important in my life. Our own actions in ASMSU lead to being sustainable in other forms. Fiscal responsibility goes hand in hand with that.

Vanata’s question.

Getting students more involved is really important. I haven’t been as involved as I could have been. Communication between students and the school is very important, and I’d like to work on sustainability on the whole. I’m excited to work with new person in office of sustainability.

Thuringer’s question.

My own budget. Living within my means. Listening to my peers, looking at reports, doing reading, whatever I can. Happy to serve on a committee.

I guess to close. I’d like to reiterate that as someone who is studying engineering, I can be very calculating and apply cost-benefit analysis to everything I do but at the same time really represent a diverse body. I understand conflicting viewpoints, and I’m a good person to help resolve differences. Thank you for your time.

Ninth Candidate: Wilkerson

Thank you to everyone for this opportunity. Why I think I’m the most qualified candidate for the position: Intern at NSE office. Professional environment is hugely about engaging individuals and students. The other experience I wanted to talk about is my exchange in Montreal. I learned a lot about being open minded and communicating thoroughly through the multicultural experiences I’ve had. It’s a totally different culture and they had lots of different programs and I learned a lot. Multiculturalism and sustainability were very important there. I was also on the MSU ethical debate team, which taught me how to engage in productive conversation with colleagues. I know how important engaging in MSU clubs is. Engaging students in the local community is important. Bozeman is thriving, there are awesome opportunities, and I’d love to help promote those. I was a TA in Honors last semester and was able to gain close relationships with professors and faculty and work loosely with students, which was awesome.

Rowe’s question.

Diverse academic background. I’m a political science major: with a French-teaching minor and a water science minor.

McKay’s question.

Definitely the sustainability projects. I’m interested in NECO as well. I’ve been excited every time I get an email about the things you are doing and I think it’s especially key in a place as beautiful as this one.

Vanata’s question.

When I first started, interested in getting involved with clubs. Struggled to find a niche. Love to participate in helping students become acquainted with all of the great opportunities offered here at MSU.
Thuringer’s question.

Not a strong background. My grandpa is the budget administrator for Montana School System. More than willing to talk to him and learn from you.

Thanks for the opportunity. It’s great to see some student activism when there is a sea of passive students. I would bring a lot to the table, passion for sustainability, diverse background, and thank you very much.

Tenth Candidate: Vergara

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you. My name is Nicholas Vergara. I’m a Paleo and Econ double major. At large does not just a departmental constituency but represent people across campus. Current RHA president, work hand in hand with 525 students. ASMSU aims to change lives of people. A big issue with that is that you want to educate the people. I have a personal friendship with 525 people. I’m also an RHA Senator. Do you really want to train someone else with student government legislation? This is something I’m already acquainted with. I’d be honored to be considered for this position.

Rowe’s question.

A Senator must be able to both listen and act. As RHA president, I listen to what people want. Not only do I have the ability to listen to what they want, but also to act. Action is a really important thing and I try to embody it daily.

McKay’s question.

I ran in the fall. I know a lot of you in this room. I would really like to work with Sustainability or legislative work and other things that will really affect students.

Vanata’s question.

I think we could work on visibility. If people are more aware of the issues, then they’ll get more inspired and I really think I could have a serious advantage in helping educate people about things that they aren’t even aware are happening.

Thuringer’s question.

It’s hilarious you mention that because my Senators just went in with fiscal outline for Hannon Date auction. Every dollar matters. Knowing this is the students’ money, it gives a new lens to look through. I’ve drafted budget outlines for major events.

You’ve heard a lot of opinions, inflated resumes, nervous pleads, and me. It comes down to someone who wants the position and wants to create a change in the community. Thanks for your consideration.

DISCUSSIONS

McKay: Lots of qualified students tonight. Haskell, Curley, and Dove. Really captivated by Dove’s last statement. He seems like a civil servant and passion for it. This is what we’re all fighting to do everyday in this room. Really hard decisions. Some really well qualified students.
Lamm: I agree with those three. Also put Tiffany in there. So much dedication to this body. Comes to every meetings time and effort put in. She’s caught up. Curley because he is a minority and he has a business real worldview into our budgeting process. We could learn something from him. Nice that Haskell has been here, knows the process.

Mains: Budgeting is one of the most time consuming things. We have a few candidates who know that. One has been through it, sat through and watched it, Kostelnik and Haskell great to fill this. So many great ones, they’re the best.

Oak: echo Mains. Budgeting. Let’s get locked and loaded time. We could be a little bit more optimistic. Haskell has already gone through this. Tiffany she knows what’s up. Very impressed by Dove. He was one of the few who were concerned with student and integration on campus, wellbeing. Great.

Thuringer: I have a top 4 right now. Haskell and Kostelnik. Tiffany has the double-edged sword of that we know her. Dove and Gilkerson, unique perspectives we could benefit from.

Goldstein: I also impressed by Haskell, and we all know Tiffany, she’s been incredibly helpful around the office and deserves notice. Very impressed by Dove, someone who demonstrates legitimate leadership. Veterans are very underrepresented and it would be great to get his perspective. Gilkerson has lots of enthusiasm and passion and experience with other universities, which is great, and she was a TA with honors.

Stiles: We have to put into play who’s going to be useful for us in this time and can hit the ground running. The budgeting does not concern me at all. I just want to make sure we give everyone an equal opportunity and just because they haven’t been involved with us I want to make sure we give them equal consideration.

Howard: Dove was the star. He has a tough aura, doesn’t seem like he’ll dink around, half ass the job. Started a club, veteran, experience that would be really useful to us. Tiffany knows literally knows everything about ASMSU which is invaluable heading into budgeting.

Reid: I’d like to recognize President Abbey or Vice President Murdock.

Abbey: Budgeting is important, I agree with Senator Stiles that budgeting should not be the only skill set that we’re looking for. Dylan is phenomenal but I wasn’t impressed with his interview. Tiffany is very dedicated and is really passionate about ASMSU. Oelkers: I love him! He was really great. He seems like he’s had some great experiences and is quiet but thoughtful.

Murdock: Curley: I’ve worked with Kevin and he’s not very professional in his representation. I don’t know if I’d feel comfortable with him representing in that sense. Oelkers I’m very impressed with, same with Dove. Tiffany knows her stuff.

Vanata: Haskell, his personal experience. Dylan was speaking to me about what goes on in the programs, his ideas, I know he’s going to have a good perspective of what’s gone on in the past with those programs. Stoick really stuck out. Speaks on behalf of students, and speaks very intentionally, and honestly. She said she is critical which would be helpful with budgeting. Think that’s what this body needs a lot of. Hold us accountable.

Mains: Tiffany and Haskell, weighing really big on my mind that they both really want it. Tiffany shows her dedication by being here, Haskell has come to me numerous times. Both of them are awesome.
Oak: Dove said he was president of his high school. He will be successful in talking to people from diverse backgrounds. My favorite part of tonight was when Nick Vergara talked about his special place with students.

Vanata: I didn’t do Haskell justice. I know he is devoted to the student body, whether he is a part of Senate or not. He puts more effort into Senate than in his own schoolwork. I do believe he has a hard time getting that across. Completely dedicated and experienced.

Goldstein: How are we doing voting?

Townshend: Runoff. People with top two votes will get voted on. Dump Truck Vote.

Haskell: 4
Dove: 9
Stoick: 1
Kostelnik: 1
Oelkers: 1

Townshend: We’ll take a break after we swear them in if everyone will focus. I have to pee.

Enter all candidates.

Townshend: Thank you to everyone that ran. It is amazing.

Round of applause.

Townshend: I’ve been here for two years now. I’m so impressed with the number of people that applied and the quality of the applicants. I encourage all of you to run in the fall and look for different experiences to get involved in. There are so many great places to be effective on campus.

Two Education Seats: Christina Macy, Jen Marshall. At large: William Dove. Congrats to you three. We all hope to see you in the future. Thank you.

Abbey: Swearing in.

- 2013-R-5 Opposition of SB109
  - Sponsors: Michael Townshend, Erica McKay

First reading of 2013-R-5.

- Admin Reports
  - President – Kiah Abbey

Welcome to our new Senators. My name is Kiah; I’m the student body president. It is a challenge, learning to get your way about yourself in the Senate. You basically have unlimited opportunity to make change on campus. If you’re stoked on something, let someone know and we can make it happen. Even if it’s just a baby idea, let us know and we can make it into an adult idea. There will be a “How to throw a better party” workshop. It will include a wide range of topics. Knowing your limit, bringing money, checking IDs, registering your party with police, telling your neighbors you’re having a party, etc. It will be fun. March 21st in the evening.
February 15th is student rotunda day. Instead of sending students up we will be sending students up to shadow legislators so we can have substantive experiences. If you’re interested in that, let me know or Mark, our new legislative director next week after he’s had his first few days. Don’t plan anything for this day. The strategic investment proposal process has been happening over the last couple of months. Public hearings on the proposals will be held and there have been many concerns from your constituents. Public comment will be here at 1:45 tomorrow in SUB 233. You should be there to think about why it’s important for students in your colleges. Some of the proposals I think are particularly relevant: associate dean of students, degree works support, transitioning tribal college students into MSUSTEM degree programs, marching band equipment, internet connection backup, things like this. I encourage you to look at these programs. Please look at the list. It will be in my window. Thanks for the substantive conversation on the referendum.

○ Vice-President – Lindsay Murdock
I sent out a pseudo presentation for the CJ middle school presentation. That is January 30th from 9:30-12:30. We will have our first student and classified director round table discussion next Monday. Campus Entertainment is putting on a show on the 31st. It’s “The Good Husbands” next Thursday so after this meeting. Elections meeting tomorrow at 4. Any input on the elections process, go to that meeting. I want to see every single one of you in our office at some point in the next week talking with your directors. I’ve been getting pretty good feedback from students. Please show them there’s a Facebook page and an open website. We’re still working on interviews for Campus Entertainment Director. In process of wrapping up Outdoor Rec hiring. LeaAnne put in resignation. Thank her for her service. Casey Welles also resigned. He got a big internship in New York so we will be starting a search committee for hiring that position for the duration of the semester. Applications will be available tomorrow as well as local government liaison position.

Vanata: With the Romney Renovation. I’ve heard a few constituent concerns. Would we be able to share concerns now?

There is a lot of concern because they’re worried the human development lab in basement is going. Lots of student clubs have expressed concern because they are worried the gym or dance studio will be removed. That gym is booked for club spaces for 3-11:30 every night of the week. Used for classes during the day. There has been a lot of student concern around that because they don’t want it to go away. Whoever is interested in being in that building would be able to apply.

“If opportunity does not knock, build a door.”

○ Business Manager – Lauren Jackson
Jackson: Echoing Vice President Murdock, definitely meet with all of your different programs, meet with them and discuss budgets with them. I’ll be in my office 8-10 tomorrow, can be there after 12, I can meet with you, help you out with budgeting concerns you may have, etc. I’m very exited and impressed with people who showed up to liaisons meetings. If you have concerns, definitely talk with liaison, do the research, help them out, work what you want as a body into the actual budget. I reconcile every single transaction that goes through this place so if you have a question, I can figure it out for you.

○ Senate President – Michael Townshend
Townshend: Who here lives in the residence halls? Would you two be interested in the University Food Service Advising Council? I can get you in touch with them. For those who don’t, I still need other people. Solicit you two around res halls to ask people who might be interested in that. I’ll get you more
Budgeting presentations will start on the 7th. Meet with your program! Look over budgets. Get on opal. I’ll resend instructions on how to get on that.

French: Can’t open it up.

Jackson: I approached it through a different route and it let me in.

Townshend: I will figure that out, be in touch. Thanks for being on your best game tonight. Long meeting. Remember we are a distinguished body here on campus. Our actions reflect on us. When we have long meetings, let’s monitor our conduct and ourselves. Thanks.

- Senate Vice President – Erica McKay
  25 pages. This woman. Rock star. [Thanks lady!] Welcome, new Senators! We’re really excited to have you. Cara and I got appointed at this time last year. We know where you are. Don’t feel afraid to ask any questions at all. Anyone working on a parking resolution?

Goldstein: We were supposed to meet today.

Vanata: Meeting Monday for sure.

Goldstein: We will send out an email.

McKay: It’s important that we get that done. I want to be in on that conversation.

Finance Board. First meeting this next Monday. We’re going to get a schedule set up, communicate with you. Funding Board is rolling. Thank you for being such great people and representatives of the student body. I appreciate your hard work. It’s incredible to be a part of such an awesome body. I’m excited about the passage of this referendum. It will be on the ballot on March 6, 7. Talk to as many students as you can about it. Regardless of how you feel, the more students involved, the better.

- Senate Reports
Lamm: Talked to Matt Caires about the possibility of switching around the academic calendar. He suggested we start with writing a resolution to get a group of people together to work on it. If you are interested in that, I really need a sponsor and someone to continue to conversation with. Still being worked out. Let me know if you’re interested.

Vanata: Staff meeting for LI today. Their investment proposal was not in the 39 to continue on. Leadership summit coming up. Sent out an email. We still need a speaker, so think of anyone with an outdoor leadership background component, open to suggestions. Spirit budget email. If you have input, let me know. LI has an event “Mending a Broken Congress” on Wednesday Feb 6th, 4:10. 8 reserved seating spots for Senators. Let me know if you want to go.

Mains: I went to this really great meeting at the police station today. We had a conference call discussing a new system to make students safer. You’ll hear more details soon, be ready for it!

- Senate Announcements
Mains: move to adjourn.

Seconded by Thuringer.

Meeting adjourned 10:20pm.
Changes from January 31st Meeting:

McKay: I stated student account funding was not taken out of the mass funding for RSOs and it is indeed taken out of mass funding so I would like to add that in there.

Seconded by Goldstein.

Vanata: I’d like to add a note to Kiah Abbey’s report. Pan-Hellenic will not be participating in or supporting the workshop on how to throw a better party.

Seconded McKay.